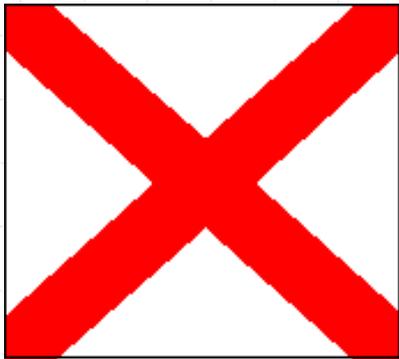


Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan



A Blueprint for Success

“One State’s Approach”

Why?

- ◆ Mandated by SAFETEA-LU
- ◆ By FY2007 Statewide Coordination Plans must exist and be in effect to be eligible for the following funds
 - Sec 5310 (elderly and disabled)
 - Sec 5316 (Job Access & Reverse Commute - JARC)
 - Sec 5317 (New Freedoms)

Who?

- ◆ ALDOT is proponent agency
- ◆ AARC was contracted by ALDOT to coordinate the activity and develop the plan
- ◆ Each of the 12 Regions provided staff and expertise to actually accomplish the task
- ◆ Undertaken predominantly for “sub-recipient” agencies
- ◆ Transit systems were subsumed as part of county efforts
- ◆ MPOs were a subset of the process

AARC

1. Northwest Alabama Council of Local Governments
2. West Alabama Regional Commission
3. Birmingham RPC
4. East Alabama Regional Planning & Development Commission
5. South Central Alabama Development Commission
6. Alabama-Tombigbee Regional Commission
7. Southeast Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission



8. South Alabama Regional Planning Commission
9. Central Alabama Regional Planning Development Commission
10. Lee-Russell Council of Governments
11. North-Central Alabama Regional Council of Governments
12. Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments

How?

- ◆ **Within each region (includes all counties, urban areas and MPOs)**
 - **Meet with affected and interested parties (Stakeholders) and identify that which is both good and bad**
 - **Identify common origins and destinations**
 - **Inventory available assets**
 - **Identify unmet transportation needs**
 - **Identify shortfalls and gaps in service**
 - **Identify opportunities for cooperation and coordination**
 - **Develop a strategy to optimize these opportunities**
 - **Develop Transportation Alternatives**
 - **Publish 12 separate regional plans to bring this about**

Keys to Success

- ◆ Involve all players early and often
- ◆ Do not “over plan”
- ◆ Clearly identify planning objectives and do not allow the process to stray
- ◆ Identify format and products early
- ◆ Use MPO expertise to “assist” in the development of the plan

Key elements

- ◆ Identify “clusters of need”
- ◆ Identify common destinations
- ◆ Identify existing service (and gaps of service)
- ◆ Don’t “overplan”
- ◆ Be blunt – tell the truth
- ◆ Identify the areas that can’t be fixed locally
- ◆ Identify necessary resources to fix local issues

Initial Findings

- ◆ **\$\$\$\$\$\$ are the crux of the matter**
 - **Local match (“There ain’t none!”)**
 - **State funding (ditto)**
 - **Medicaid reimbursement**
- ◆ **Limitations are caused by absence of resources, not unwillingness to coordinate**
- ◆ **Framework exists for enhanced coordination and service**
- ◆ **Most transit providers have good to excellent relations with local agencies**
- ◆ **Transit providers are challenged by perception and unrealistic expectation**
 - **High expectations for little cost**
 - **Social service vs. Infrastructure**
 - **Them vs. Us**

Data for Consideration

- ◆ Alabama is a leading state in the incidence of diabetes
 - Renal failure (dialysis)
 - Bilateral amputation
 - Diabetic Retinopathy
- ◆ 2d most obese state (related health issues)
- ◆ WWII, Korean War, Viet Nam, Cold War, Persian Gulf, Iraqi Freedom veterans require access to VA facilities (demand increasing)
- ◆ 5% of households in Alabama do not have access to a vehicle (13% if 65+)

Data for Consideration (cont.)

- ◆ Senior population is growing rapidly (do we really want them driving?)
 - 13% of the current population is 65+
 - 21% of the 2030 population projected to be 65+
 - By 2030 the 65+ population will increase by 72+%
 - By 2030 the 85+ population will increase by 94+%
- ◆ 22% of the population over 40 have significant vision problems (442,459) (4% are blind)
- ◆ 2.5% of the population over 18 have Diabetic Retinopathy (85,752)
- ◆ 2% of the population over 50 have Macular Degeneration (25,476)

The Final Result

- ◆ 12 specific and unique regional plans that will:
 - Address local dynamics
 - Be attentive to local needs
 - Offer realistic and prioritized options for implementation
- ◆ A strong basis for a “statewide” plan that is sensitive to the needs of the regions of the state